

*Application No. 10/084765*  
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*Amendment*  
*Attorney Docket No. S63.2N-7311-US02*

In The Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An expandable stent comprising:

an expandable stent framework, the stent framework expandable from a reduced diameter configuration to a fully expanded configuration;

and at least one stent retaining segment disposed interwoven about the stent, the at least one stent retaining segment having a coating thereon, the coating comprising at least one therapeutic agent, the stent retaining segment maintaining the stent framework in a less than fully expanded configuration, the stent retaining segment constructed and arranged to fail upon degradation of at least a portion of the segment.

Claims 2-29. (Cancelled)

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) A covering for covering at least a portion of a stent, the covering comprising:

a tubular section of material for covering an unexpanded stent wherein such tubular section is dimensioned so as to constrain the expansion of the stent, and wherein a pattern of perforations provided in the tubular section is selected to modify the expansion characteristics of the section and thereby constrain the expansion of the underlying stent, at least a portion of the tubular section having a coating thereon, the coating comprising at least one therapeutic agent.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) A covering for covering at least a portion of a stent, the covering comprising:

a tubular section of polymeric material for covering an unexpanded stent wherein such tubular section is dimensioned so as to constrain the expansion of the stent, and wherein a pattern of perforations provided in the tubular section is selected to modify the expansion characteristics of the section and thereby constrain the expansion of the underlying stent, at least a portion of the tubular section comprising at least one therapeutic agent.

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**Claim 32. (Previously Presented)** A covering for covering at least a portion of a stent, the covering comprising:

a tubular section of bio-stable material for covering an unexpanded stent wherein such tubular section is dimensioned so as to constrain the expansion of the stent, and wherein a pattern of perforations provided in the tubular section is selected to modify the expansion characteristics of the section and thereby constrain the expansion of the underlying stent, at least a portion of the tubular section comprising at least one therapeutic agent.

**Claim 33. (Previously Presented)** The stent of claim 1 wherein, the stent retaining segment is further constructed and arranged to elute the at least one therapeutic agent upon degradation of the at least a portion of the segment.

**Claim 34. (Previously Presented)** The stent of claim 1 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: anti-inflammatory agents, anti-proliferative agents, anti-platelet agents, anti-thrombin agents, anti-oxidant agents, gene therapy agents, and combinations thereof.

**Claim 35. (Previously Presented)** The stent of claim 1 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: radiochemicals, human growth factors, anticoagulants, RGD (Arginine-Glycine-Aspartic Acid) peptide-containing compounds, heparin, antithrombin compounds, platelet receptor antagonists, antibodies, aspirin, prostaglandin inhibitors, platelet inhibitors, antiplatelet peptides, vascular cell growth inhibitors, DNA, RNA, cholesterol-lowering agents, vasodilating agents, Taxol™ (paclitaxel), 5-Fluorouracil, Beta-Estradiol, metabolites, and any combinations thereof.

**Claim 36. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 30 wherein, the at least a portion of the tubular section is constructed and arranged to elute the at least one therapeutic agent.

**Claim 37. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 30 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: anti-inflammatory agents,

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anti-proliferative agents, anti-platelet agents, anti-thrombin agents, anti-oxidant agents, gene therapy agents, and combinations thereof.

**Claim 38. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 30 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: radiochemicals, human growth factors, anticoagulants, RGD (Arginine-Glycine-Aspartic Acid) peptide-containing compounds, heparin, antithrombin compounds, platelet receptor antagonists, antibodies, aspirin, prostaglandin inhibitors, platelet inhibitors, antiplatelet peptides, vascular cell growth inhibitors, DNA, RNA, cholesterol-lowering agents, vasodilating agents, Taxol™ (paclitaxel), 5-Fluorouracil, Beta-Estradiol, metabolites, and any combinations thereof.

**Claim 39. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 31 wherein, the at least a portion of the tubular section is constructed and arranged to elute the at least one therapeutic agent.

**Claim 40. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 31 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: anti-inflammatory agents, anti-proliferative agents, anti-platelet agents, anti-thrombin agents, anti-oxidant agents, gene therapy agents, and combinations thereof.

**Claim 41. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 31 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: radiochemicals, human growth factors, anticoagulants, RGD (Arginine-Glycine-Aspartic Acid) peptide-containing compounds, heparin, antithrombin compounds, platelet receptor antagonists, antibodies, aspirin, prostaglandin inhibitors, platelet inhibitors, antiplatelet peptides, vascular cell growth inhibitors, DNA, RNA, cholesterol-lowering agents, vasodilating agents, Taxol™ (paclitaxel), 5-Fluorouracil, Beta-Estradiol, metabolites, and any combinations thereof.

**Claim 42. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 32 wherein, the at least a portion of the tubular section is constructed and arranged to elute the at least one therapeutic agent.

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**Claim 43. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 32 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: anti-inflammatory agents, anti-proliferative agents, anti-platelet agents, anti-thrombin agents, anti-oxidant agents, gene therapy agents, and combinations thereof.

**Claim 44. (Previously Presented)** The covering of claim 32 wherein the at least one therapeutic agent is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of: radiochemicals, human growth factors, anticoagulants, RGD (Arginine-Glycine-Aspartic Acid) peptide-containing compounds, heparin, antithrombin compounds, platelet receptor antagonists, antibodies, aspirin, prostaglandin inhibitors, platelet inhibitors, antiplatelet peptides, vascular cell growth inhibitors, DNA, RNA, cholesterol-lowering agents, vasodilating agents, Taxol™ (paclitaxel), 5-Fluorouracil, Beta-Estradiol, metabolites, and any combinations thereof.